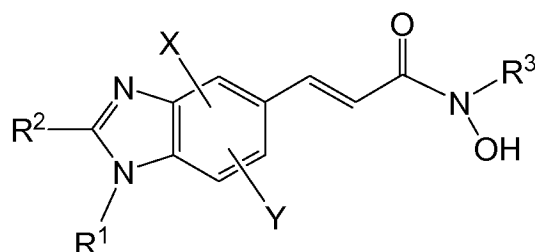


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This Listing of Claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in this application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A compound of the formula:



wherein

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of: H, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkylalkyl, C_4 - C_9 heterocycloalkylalkyl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl, each of which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: halogen, =O, =S, -CN, -NO₂, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, alkylamino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, -COOH, -C(O)OR⁵, -SH, - and acyl;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of: H, halogen, C_1 - C_{10} alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, cycloalkylalkyl, C_4 - C_9 heterocycloalkylalkyl, arylalkyl, and heteroarylalkyl, each of which may be unsubstituted or substituted with one or more substituents independently selected from the group consisting of: halogen, =O, =S, -CN, -NO₂, alkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, haloalkyl, heteroalkyl, cycloalkyl, heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, hydroxy, hydroxyalkyl, alkoxy, alkoxyalkyl, phenoxy, benzyloxy, alkylamino, acylamino, aminoalkyl, alkylsulfonyl, arylsulfonyl, aminosulfonyl, -COOH, -C(O)OR⁵, -SH, and acyl;

R^3 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_1 - C_6 alkyl, and acyl;

X and Y are the same or different and are independently selected from the group consisting of: H, halogen, -CN, -NO₂, -CF₃, C₁-C₄ alkyl, -COR⁵, -SR⁶, -OR⁶, and -NR⁷R⁸;

R⁵ is C₁-C₄ alkyl;

R⁶ is C₁-C₄ alkyl;

R⁷ and R⁸ are each independently selected from the group consisting of: H, C₁-C₄ alkyl, C₄-C₉ cycloalkyl, C₄-C₉ heterocycloalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, arylalkyl and heteroarylalkyl; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Cancelled)

4. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R³ = H.

5. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein X and Y = H.

6. (Cancelled)

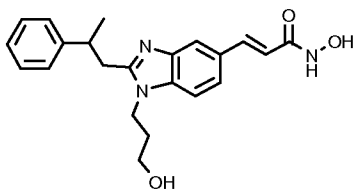
7. (Previously Presented) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of: H, hydroxyalkyl, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, heteroalkyl, arylalkyl, heteroarylalkyl, and heterocycloalkyl, each of which may be unsubstituted or substituted as defined in claim 1.

8. (Currently Amended) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of: H, methyl; (pyridin-3-yl)methyl; 2-hydroxy-ethyl; 2,3-di-hydroxy-propyl; and 3-hydroxy-propyl.

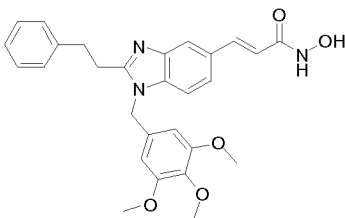
9. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of H, C₁-C₁₀ alkyl, arylalkyl, aryl, heteroaryl, heteroalkyl, and cycloalkyl, each of which may be unsubstituted or substituted as defined in claim 1.

10. (Currently Amended) A compound according to claim 1 wherein R² is selected from the group consisting of 2-phenyl-propyl, 2-phenyl-ethyl, 4-methoxy-phenyl, 4-benzyloxy-3-methoxy-phenyl, 4-benzyloxy-3-methoxy-phenyl, pyridin-2-yl, and pyridin-4-yl.

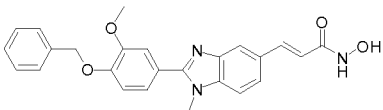
11. (Currently Amended) The compound of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, selected from the group consisting of



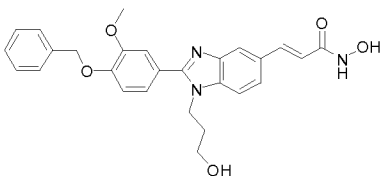
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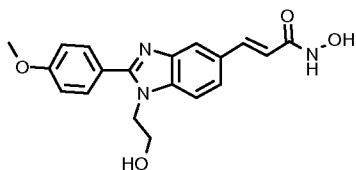
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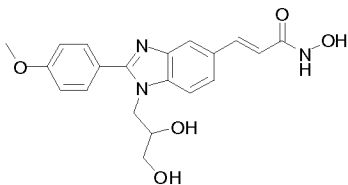
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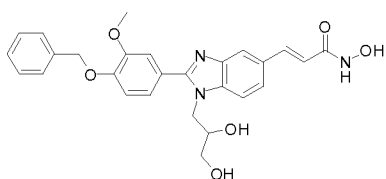
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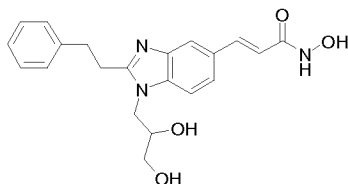
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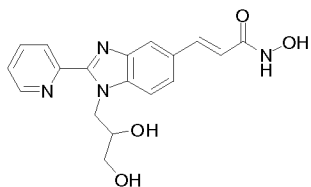
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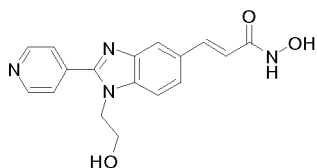
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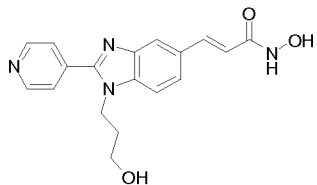
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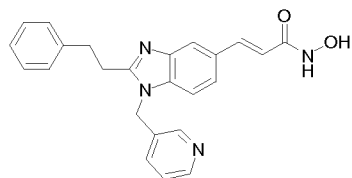
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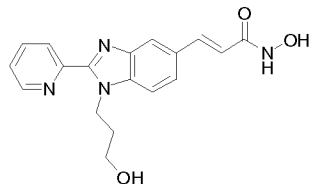
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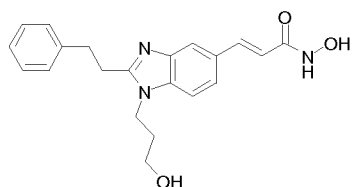
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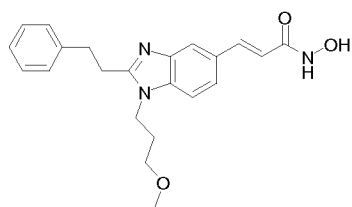
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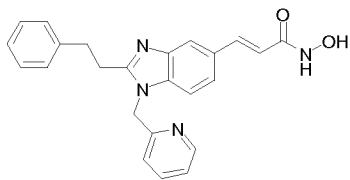
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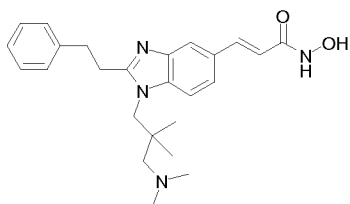
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-phenethyl-
1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



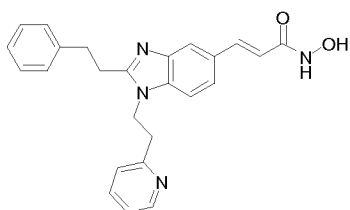
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phenethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



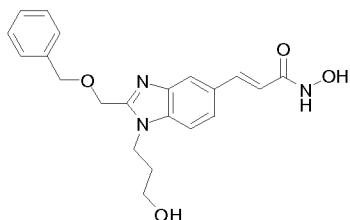
N-Hydroxy-3-(2-phenethyl-1-(pyridin-2-yl)methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide



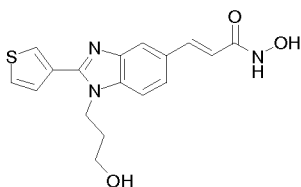
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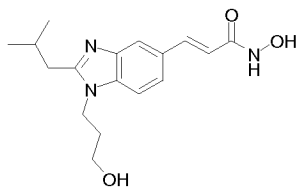
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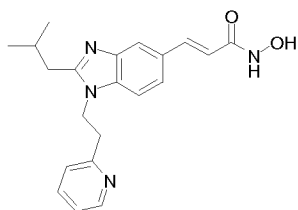
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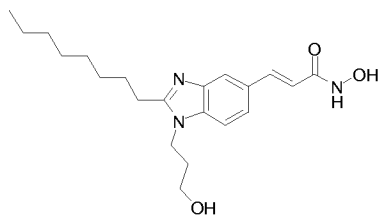
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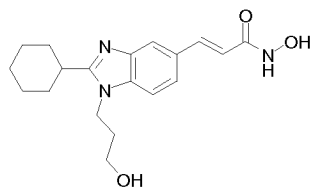
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-isobutyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



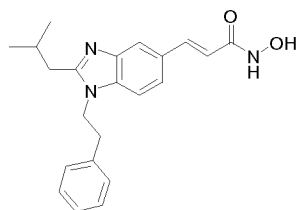
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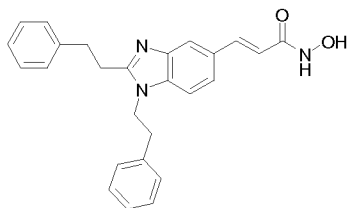
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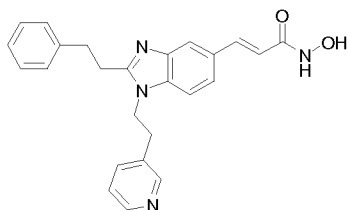
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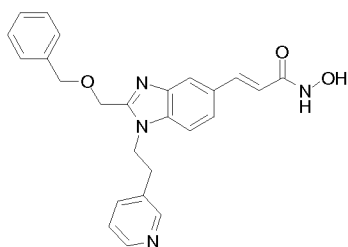
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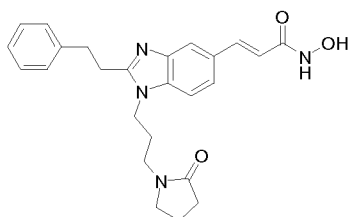
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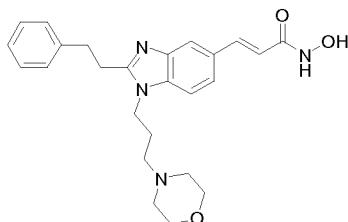
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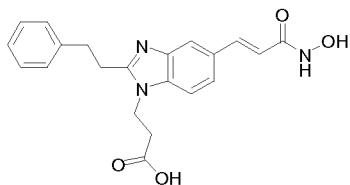
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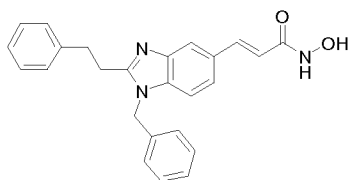
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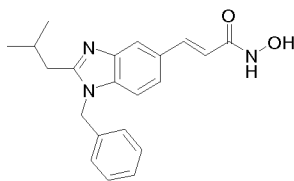
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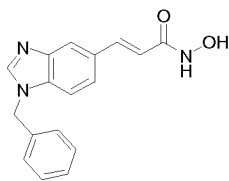
3-[5-(2-Hydrocarbamoyl-vinyl)-2-phenethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-1-yl]-propionic acid



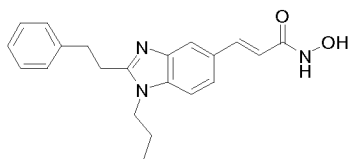
N-Hydroxy-3-(1-Benzyl-2-phenethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide



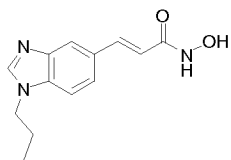
N-Hydroxy-3-(1-Benzyl-2-isobutyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide



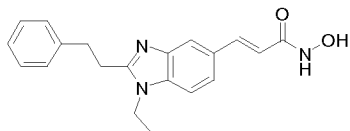
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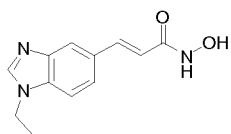
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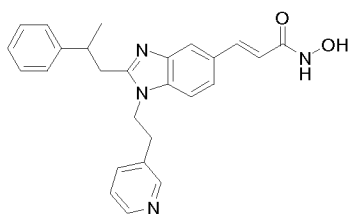
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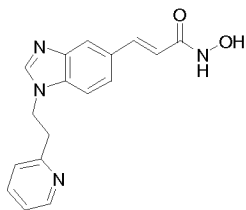
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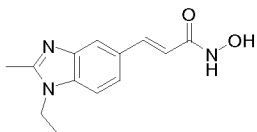
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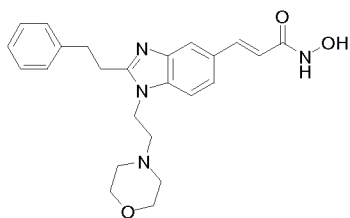
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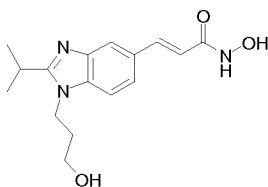
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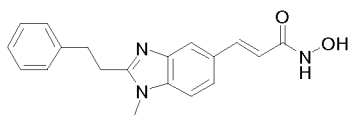
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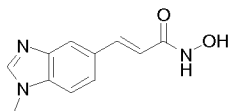
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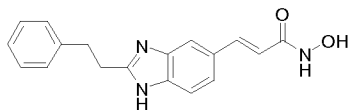
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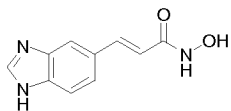
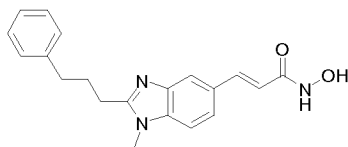
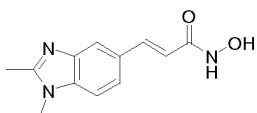
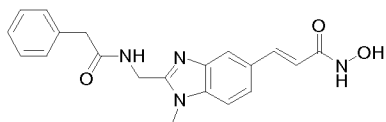
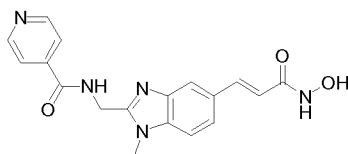
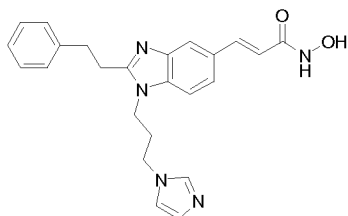
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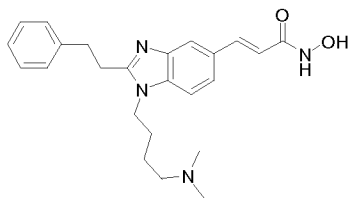


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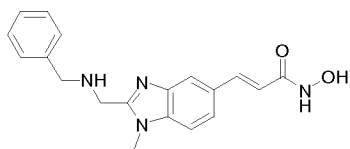


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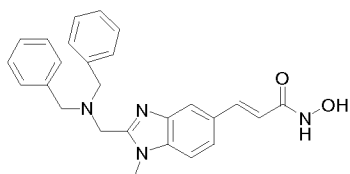
*N*-Hydroxy-3-(1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide*N*-Hydroxy-3-[1-methyl-2-(3-phenyl-propyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide*N*-Hydroxy-3-(1,2-dimethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide*N*-Hydroxy-3-[1-methyl-2-(phenylacetyl-amino-methyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide*N*-[5-(2-Hydroxycarbomoyl-vinyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-2-ylmethyl]-isonicotinamide*N*-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-imidazol-1-yl-propyl)-2-phenethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



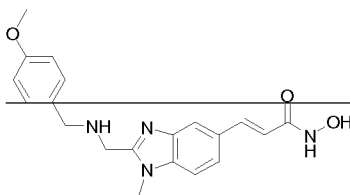
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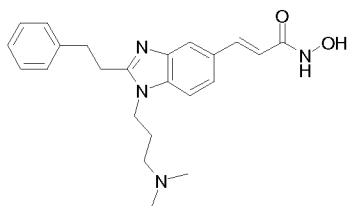
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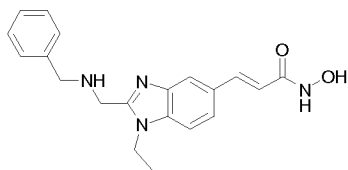
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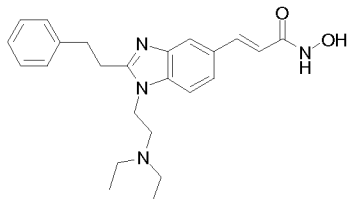
N-Hydroxy-3-{2-[(4-methoxy-benzylamino)-methyl]-1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-acrylamide



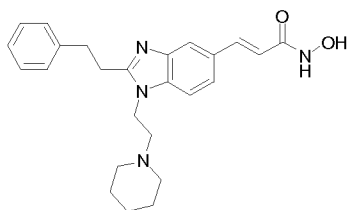
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-dimethylamino-propyl)-2-phenethyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



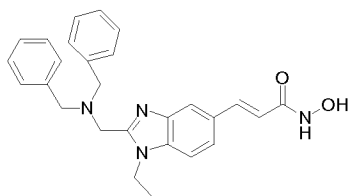
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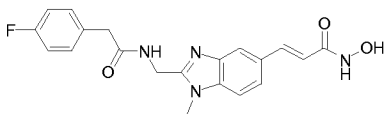
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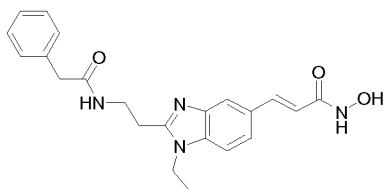
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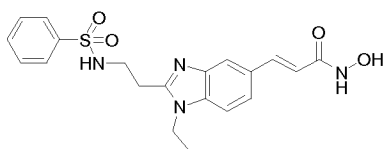
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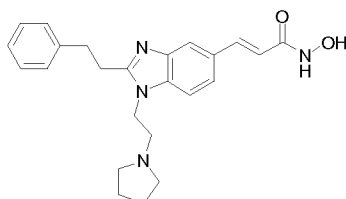
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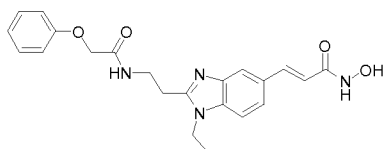
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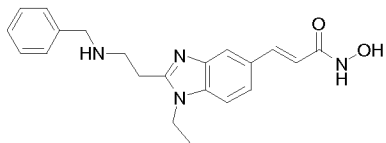
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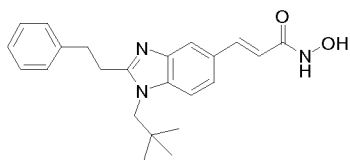
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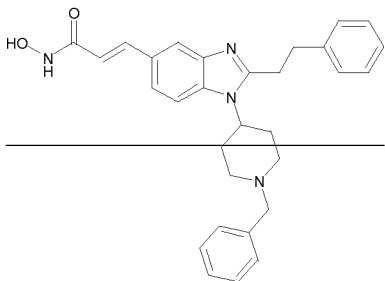
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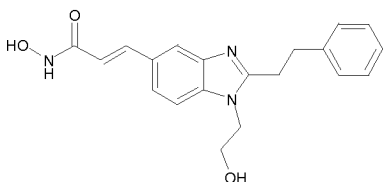
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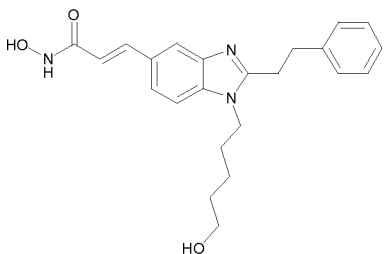
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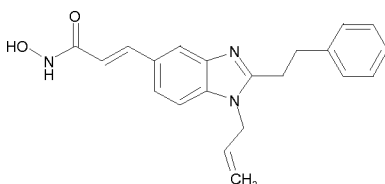
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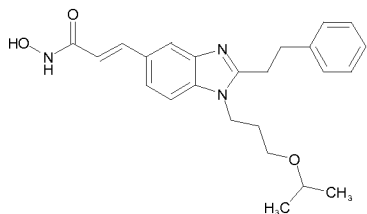
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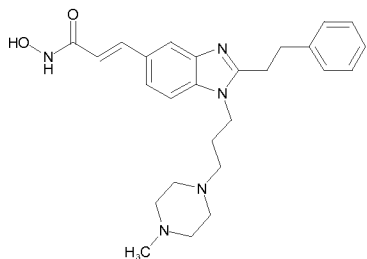
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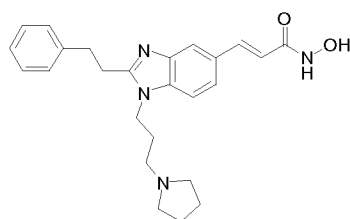
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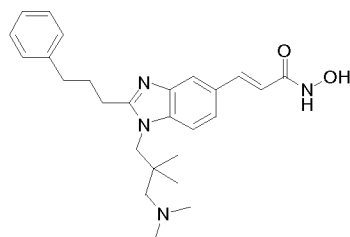
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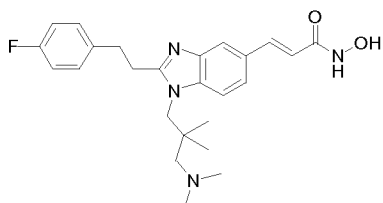
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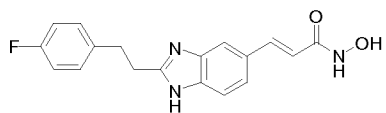
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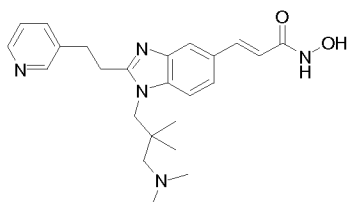
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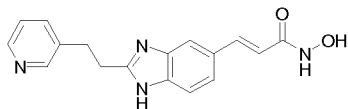
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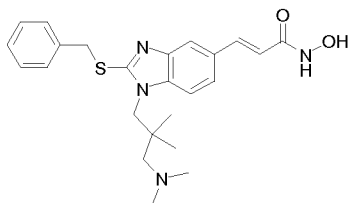
N-Hydroxy-3-{2-(4-fluoro-phenyl)-ethyl}-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-acrylamide



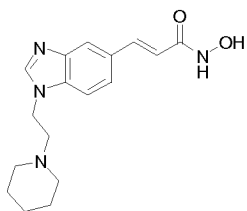
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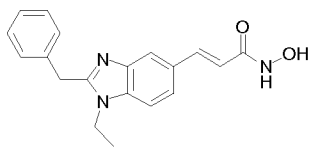
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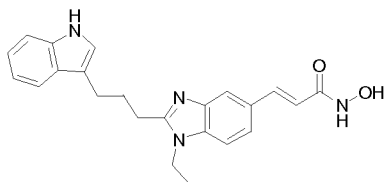
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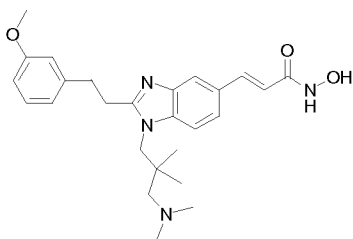
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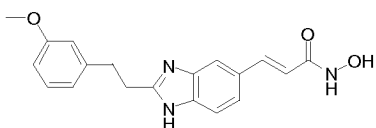
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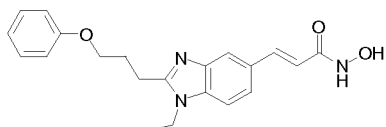
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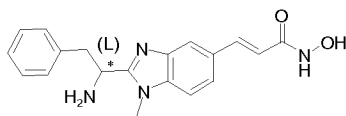
N-Hydroxy-3-{1-(3-dimethylamino-2,2-dimethylpropyl)-2-[2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl]-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-acrylamide



N-Hydroxy-3-{2-(3-methoxy-phenyl)-ethyl}-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl}-acrylamide

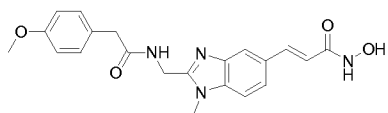


N-Hydroxy-3-[1-ethyl-2-(3-phenoxy-propyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



(*L*)-*N*-Hydroxy-3-[2-(1-amino-2-phenyl-ethyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide

and



N-Hydroxy-3-(2-([2-(4-methoxy-phenyl)-acetylamino]-methyl}-1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl)-acrylamide.

12. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition including a compound according to claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent, excipient or carrier.
13. (Withdrawn) A method of treatment of a disorder caused by, associated with or accompanied by disruptions of cell proliferation and/or angiogenesis in a patient the method including administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to the patient.
14. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13 wherein the disorder is a proliferative disorder.
15. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 13 wherein the disorder is cancer.
16. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) ~~Use of a compound according to claim 1 or a pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 to modify deacetylase activity~~ A method to modify deacetylase activity comprising administering a compound according to claim 1 and modifying deacetylase activity.
17. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) ~~A use according to claim 16~~ The method according to claim 16, wherein the deacetylase activity is histone deacetylase activity.
18. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) ~~A use according to claim 16~~ The method according to claim 16, wherein the deacetylase activity is class I histone deacetylase activity.

19. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) ~~A use according to claim 17~~ The method according to claim 17, wherein the histone deacetylase is HDAC1.
20. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) ~~A use according to claim 17~~ The method according to claim 17, wherein the histone deacetylase is HDAC8.
21. (Withdrawn) A method of treatment of a disorder that can be treated by the inhibition of histone deacetylase in a patient including administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to the patient.
22. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 21 wherein the disorder is selected from the group consisting of proliferative disorders (e.g. cancer); Neurodegenerative diseases including Huntington's Disease, Polyglutamine disease, Parkinson's Disease, Alzheimer's Disease, Seizures, Striatonigral degeneration, Progressive supranuclear palsy, Torsion dystonia, Spasmodic torticollis and dyskinesia, Familial tremor, Gilles de la Tourette syndrome, Diffuse Lewy body disease, Progressive supranuclear palsy, Pick's disease, Intracerebral haemorrhage, Primary lateral sclerosis, Spinal muscular atrophy, Amyotrophic lateral sclerosis, Hypertrophic interstitial polyneuropathy, Retinitis pigmentosa, Hereditary optic atrophy, Hereditary spastic paraplegia, Progressive ataxia and Shy-Drager syndrome; Metabolic diseases including Type 2 diabetes; Degenerative Diseases of the Eye including Glaucoma, Age-related macular degeneration, Rubeotic glaucoma; Inflammatory diseases and/or Immune system disorders including Rheumatoid Arthritis (RA), Osteoarthritis, Juvenile chronic arthritis, Graft versus Host disease, Psoriasis, Asthma, Spondyloarthropathy, psoriasis, Crohn's Disease, Inflammatory bowel disease, Colitis Ulcerosa, Alcoholic hepatitis, Diabetes, Sjogren's syndrome, Multiple Sclerosis, Ankylosing spondylitis, Membranous glomerulopathy, Discogenic pain, Systemic Lupus Erythematosus; Disease involving angiogenesis including cancer, psoriasis, rheumatoid arthritis; Psychological disorders including bipolar disease, schizophrenia, mania, depression and dementia; Cardiovascular Diseases including Heart failure, restenosis and arteriosclerosis; Fibrotic diseases including liver fibrosis, cystic fibrosis and angiofibroma; Infectious diseases including Fungal infections, such as Candida Albicans, Bacterial infections, Viral infections, such as Herpes Simplex, Protozoal infections, such as Malaria, -Leishmania infection,

Trypanosoma brucei infection, Toxoplasmosis and coccidiosis and Haematopoietic disorders including thalassemia, anemia and sickle cell anemia.

23. (Withdrawn) A method for inhibiting cell proliferation including administration of an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1.

24. (Withdrawn) A method of treatment of a neurodegenerative disorder in a patient including administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to the patient.

25. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 24 wherein the neurodegenerative disorder is Huntington's Disease.

26. (Withdrawn) A method of treatment of an inflammatory disease and/or immune system disorder in a patient including administration of a therapeutically effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to the patient.

27. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26 wherein the inflammatory disease and/or immune system disorder is rheumatoid arthritis.

28. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 26 wherein the inflammatory disease and/or immune system disorder is systemic lupus erythematosus.

29. (Withdrawn) A method for measuring an acetylated histone concentration in a biological sample using an enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay, the enzyme-linked immunosorbant assay including a combination of a primary capture antibody, or a portion thereof, and secondary detection antibody, or a portion thereof.

30. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 29, wherein the primary capture antibody is selected from the group consisting of: an anti-H3 monoclonal antibody, an anti-acetylated H3

polyclonal antibody, a goat anti-H3 polyclonal antibody, a goat anti-acetylated H3 polyclonal antibody and a combination thereof.

31. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 29, wherein the secondary detection antibody is selected from the group consisting of: an anti-H3 monoclonal antibody, an anti-acetylated H3 polyclonal antibody, a goat anti-H3 polyclonal antibody, a goat anti-acetylated H3 polyclonal antibody and a combination thereof.

32. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 29, wherein the primary capture antibody is a mouse anti-H3 monoclonal antibody and the secondary detection antibody is a rat anti-acetylated H3 polyclonal antibody.

33. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying the pharmacological effect of a histone deacetylase inhibitor in a cell, the method including the steps of:

- a) providing a cell that has been treated with a histone deacetylase inhibitor;
- b) measuring the acetylated histone concentration in the cell by a method according to claim 29; and
- c) comparing the acetylated histone concentration with the acetylated histone concentration of a control sample.

34. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 33, wherein the control sample is derived from a cell that has not been treated with a histone deacetylase inhibitor.

35. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 33, wherein the cell is a tumour cell.

36. (Withdrawn) A method for identifying the pharmacological effect of a histone deacetylase inhibitor in a subject, the method including the steps of:

- a) obtaining a biological sample from a subject that has been treated with a histone deacetylase inhibitor;

b) measuring the acetylated histone concentration in the biological sample by a method according to claim 32; and

c) comparing the acetylated histone concentration with the acetylated histone concentration of a control sample.

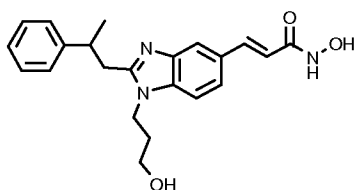
37. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 36, wherein the control sample is a biological sample derived from a subject that has not been treated with a histone deacetylase inhibitor.

38. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 32, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of tissue, blood, serum, plasma, urine, saliva and a combination thereof.

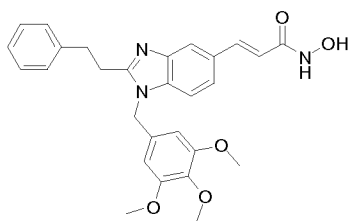
39. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 36, wherein the biological sample is selected from the group consisting of tissue, blood, serum, plasma, urine, saliva and a combination thereof.

40. (Withdrawn) A method according to claim 36, wherein the histone deacetylase inhibitor includes a compound according to claim 1.

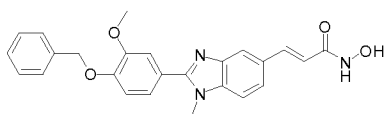
41. (Previously Presented) The compound of claim 1 wherein the compound is selected from compounds, and their pharmaceutically acceptable salts, selected from the group consisting of



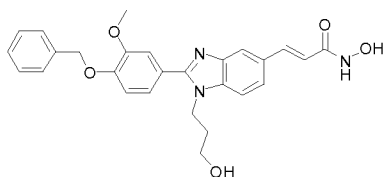
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-(2-phenyl-propyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



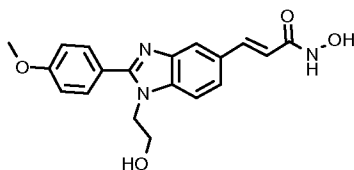
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3,4,5-trimethoxybenzyl)-2-(2-phenyl-ethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



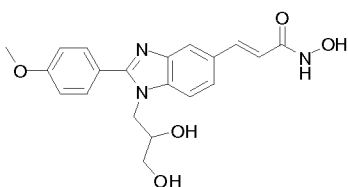
N-Hydroxy-3-[2-(4-benzyloxy-3-methoxyphenyl)-1-methyl-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-yl]-acrylamide



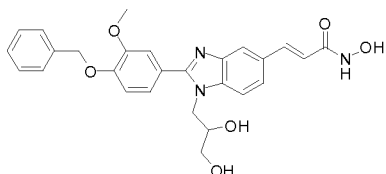
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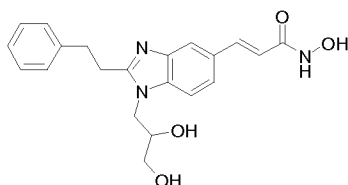
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-yl]-acrylamide



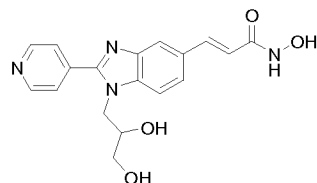
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(2,3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-(4-methoxyphenyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-yl]-acrylamide



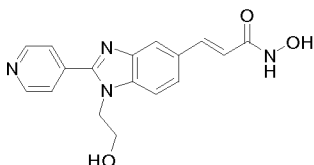
N-Hydroxy-3-[2-(4-benzyloxy-3-methoxy-phenyl)-1-(2,3-hydroxy-propyl)-1*H*-benzimidazole-5-yl]-acrylamide



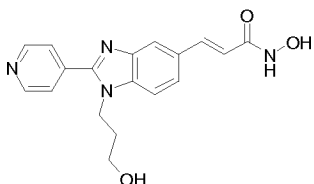
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(2,3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-(2-phenyl-ethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



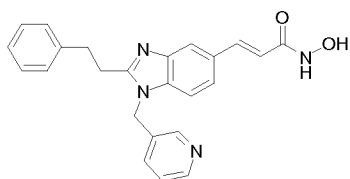
N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(2,3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-(4-pyridyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(2-hydroxy-ethyl)-2-(4-pyridyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide

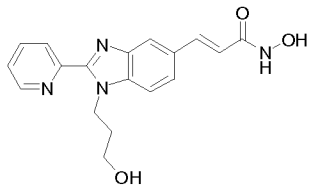


N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-hydroxy-propyl)-2-(4-pyridyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide



N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-pyridylmethyl)-2-(2-phenylethyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide

and



N-Hydroxy-3-[1-(3-hydroxypropyl)-2-(2-pyridyl)-1*H*-benzimidazol-5-yl]-acrylamide.

42. (New) The compound according to claim 1 wherein R¹ is selected from the group consisting of: 2-(piperidin-1-yl)-ethyl; 2-(pyrrolidin-1-yl)-ethyl; 2-diethylamino-ethyl; and 3-dimethylamino-2,2-dimethyl-propyl.